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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECON, OECD
SUBJECT: OCTOBER 8 ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW
COMMITTEE (EDRC) INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES
MEETING: PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS

REFS: (A) OECD DOCUMENT EDR(75)26
(B) OECD PARIS 19104

1. AT OCTOBER 8 EDRC MEETING ONLY JAPAN AND NEW ZEALAND REQUESTED SPECIFIC CHANGES IN PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF COUNTRY REVIEWS (REF A). JAPAN PREFERRED DATE CLOSE TO JUNE EPC; NEW ZEALAND OPTED FOR LATE JUNE, EARLY JULY OR SEPTEMBER. BOTH COUNTRIES WILL WORK OUT SATISFACTORY DATES WITH SECRETARIAT. NO ONE SUGGESTED CHANGE PROPOSED DATE OF U.S. REVIEW (CLOSE TO JUNE EPC).

2. DUTCH FLOATED PROPOSAL FOR AUTOMATIC ROTATION OF EXAMINERS, BUT NOTED THAT PRINCIPLE OF ROTATION, NOT METHOD (LOTTERY AND VARIATIONS) WAS CENTRAL ISSUE. DUTCH ALSO SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE OF LIMITING ROTATION TO PREFERENCE LIST OF SEVERAL (E.G. EIGHT) COUNTRIES. WHILE EDRC CHAIRMAN (HUET) WAS SKEPTICAL OF AN AUTOMATIC
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SYSTEM, HE SUGGESTED THAT IF PRINCIPLE OF ROTATION WERE

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AGREED TO, PREFERENCE-LIST METHOD MIGHT BE USEFUL. ROTATION WOULD PRESUMABLY BE DETERMINED IN DELEGATION NEGOTIATIONS WITH SECRETARIAT, USING PREFERENCE LISTS AS GUIDE. HUET ASKED DELEGATIONS TO CONSIDER ROTATION PRINCIPLE AND POSSIBLE USE OF PREFERENCE LISTS, AND EDRC AGREED TO DISCUSS THIS QUESTION AT OCTOBER 20 EDRC MEETING BEFORE TAKING UP ICELAND REVIEW.

3. OTHER PROCEDURAL ISSUES ARISING OUT OF JULY 7 EDRC PROCEDURES MEETING (REF B) WILL ALSO BE DISCUSSED AT OCTOBER 20 MEETING.

4. UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, MISSION INTENDS TO EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO ANY AUTOMATIC ROTATION OF EDRC EXAMINERS AND TO RESIST OTHER METHODS OF ROTATION WHICH DO NOT ALLOW FOR A PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION AND ACCOMMODATION ASSURING A RESULT BASICALLY SATISFACTORY TO EXAMINERS AND EXAMINEES. (FYI: WE WOULD NOT WANT TO ALLOW A SITUATION IN WHICH THE U.S. WOULD RISK BEING EXAMINED BY COUNTRIES THAT COULD NOT BE COUNTED ON TO BRING A HIGH DEGREE OF BOTH INTEREST AND COMPETENCE TO THE EXERCISE. AT THE SAME TIME, WE WOULD NOT WANT TO HAVE TO EXAMINE COUNTRIES OF RELATIVELY LITTLE INTEREST TO THE U.S.)
TURNER

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